

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1-21. (Cancelled)

22. (Previously Presented) A valve assembly including:

a manifold block having an inlet, an outlet, and a conduit in fluid communication with the inlet and with the outlet;

a valve having a portion movable within the conduit between a first position inhibiting fluid communication between the inlet and the outlet, and a second position permitting fluid communication between the inlet and the outlet;

a lever connected to the valve to permit manual movement of the valve between the first and the second positions;

a solenoid connected to the valve to move the valve between the first and second positions in response to an electrical input to the solenoid, the position of the lever being independent of the presence of the electrical input to the solenoid; and

a lock engaging the lever to lock the lever in a position having the valve in the second position.

23. (Original) The assembly of claim 22 wherein the lock includes a lock solenoid and a lock bar coupled to the lock solenoid, the lock bar engaging the lever, and the lock solenoid being operable to move the lock bar in response to an electrical input to the lock solenoid.

24. (Original) The assembly of claim 22 wherein the lock includes a lock bar movable into and out of engagement with the lever and a lock solenoid coupled to the lock bar, the lock solenoid being operable to move the lock bar relative to the lever.

25. (Cancelled)

26. (Previously Presented) A valve assembly for a hospital bed including:

a manifold block having an inlet, an outlet configured to connect to a device for positioning the bed, and a conduit in fluid communication with the inlet and with the outlet;

a valve having a portion movable within the conduit between a first position inhibiting fluid communication between the inlet and the outlet, and a second position permitting fluid communication between the inlet and the outlet;

a lever connected to the valve to permit manual movement of the valve between the first and the second positions, the lever being located entirely outside the conduit; and

a solenoid connected directly to the valve to move the valve between the first and second positions in response to an electrical input to the solenoid, the position of the lever being independent of the presence of the electrical input to the solenoid, the solenoid being positioned between the manifold and the lever.

27-54. (Cancelled)

55. (Previously Presented) The valve assembly of claim 22, wherein the lock is integral with the lever.

56. (Previously Presented) The valve assembly of claim 22, wherein the lock is activated by pressure on the lever.

57. (Previously Presented) The valve assembly of claim 26, wherein the solenoid is positioned outside the manifold.

58. (Presently Amended) A valve assembly including:  
a manifold block having an inlet, an outlet, a conduit in fluid communication with the inlet and with the outlet;

a valve having a portion movable within the conduit between a first valve position inhibiting fluid communication between the inlet and the outlet, and a second valve position permitting fluid communication between the inlet and the outlet;

a lever connected to the valve to permit manual movement of the valve between the first and the second valve positions, the lever including first and second bias mechanisms, the first bias mechanism urging the lever toward a position that places the valve in the second valve position, the second bias mechanism urging the lever away from the position that places the valve in the second valve position; and

a solenoid connected to the valve to move the valve between the first and second valve positions in response to an electrical input to the solenoid, the position of the lever being independent of the presence of the electrical input to the solenoid.

59. (Presently Amended) The valve assembly of claim [[44]] 58, wherein the first and second bias mechanisms are springs.

60. (Presently Amended) The valve assembly of claim [[45]] 59, wherein compression of the spring of the first bias mechanism results in the

elongation of the spring of the second bias mechanism.

61. (Presently Amended) The valve assembly of claim [[44]] 58, wherein the lever is movable into a first lever position wherein the first and second bias mechanisms are in equilibrium.

62. (Presently Amended) The valve assembly of claim [[47]] 61, wherein when the lever is in ~~the~~ a second lever position that places the valve in the second valve position, the lever is urged toward the first lever position by the net force of the first and second bias mechanisms.

63. (Presently Amended) The valve assembly of claim [[47]] 61, wherein the first and second bias mechanisms combine to urge the lever toward the first lever position when the lever is displaced from the first lever position.